

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505 18 August 1986

Mr. F. William Billingsley
Acting Director, Safety and Environmental
Management Division, PMS, General Services Administration
18th & F Streets NW
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Mr. Billingsley:

The General Services Administration (GSA), is currently administering a contract for the construction of the new addition to the Central Intelligence Agency Headquarters Building, Langley, Virginia.

Since the beginning of this construction project approximately two years ago, there have been numerous and recurring safety violations throughout the construction site, which resulted in employee complaints to the Regional Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) office in Baltimore, Maryland.

OSHA responded to these complaints by initiating compliance inspections of the Agency's new Headquarters addition job site from 4-17 March 1986 and from 25 April through 2 May 1986. The OSHA inspections resulted in nine subcontractors being assessed a total of \$23,640.00 in penalties.

On 5 June 1985, I sent Chief, Accident & Fire Prevention Branch, WPSA, a letter expressing my concern relative to the safety problems at the construction site and requested the assignment of a GSA construction safety engineer to monitor the project.

Chief, Accident & Fire Prevention Branch, WPSA, responded to my letter on 12 June 1985, designating a construction safety engineer from his staff, and indicated this individual would visit the construction site weekly. The GSA construction safety engineer assigned to the new building project, has inspected the site very infrequently since June 1985.

A recent inspection of the construction site by my deputy, accompanied by the Chief, New Building Project Security Staff, revealed numerous serious hazards/violations, e.g., unused openings in floors, temporary or permanent, were not completely planked over or guarded, thereby exposing employees to a fall potential; employees working where there was a possible danger of head injuries were not protected by protective helmets; temporary power cords and extension cords were laying in large pools of standing water throughout the building, thereby exposing personnel to potential electric shocks, slips and falls. All of the foregoing hazards/violations were previously documented by the OSHA compliance inspections. In addition to the above, a serious health hazard was noted throughout the ground floor of the building, and consisted of construction workers urinating throughout this area because there are no restroom/porta-john facilities located inside the building.

I know you share my concern for the safe completion of this construction project, therefore, I am once again requesting GSA assign a construction safety engineer to this project, and would appreciate him inspecting the site at least weekly. The point of contact on my staff is [redacted]

[redacted] Deputy Chief, Safety Division, who may be contacted

[redacted]
Chief, Safety Division
Office of Medical Services

cc: C/NBPO
C/Site Security, NBPO
GSA, Project Manager, Mr. Carlucci